Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5472

USNATO 1146

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0759

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: MILI

SUBJECT: ICELANDIC NEWSPAPER TRANSLATIONS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION CINCLANT INFO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK, CINCLANTFLT LANTCOMOSUPPFAC, AND COMOCEANSYSLANT FROM COMICEDEFOR REPEATED TO YOU FOR INFO:

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ICELANDIC NEWSPAPER ARTICLE TRANSLATION

1. SUMMARY: PEOPLES ALLIANCE NEWPAPER THJODVILJINN IS CONTINUING TO DEVELOP THE CABLE STORY THROUGH INFERRED LINKS WITH PAST EVENTS. THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO ASSOCIATE THE CABLE WITH US/NATO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS AND THE SENSOR BUOY MATTER. COMPLETE TEXT FROM ARTICLES 1 AND 2 JULY EDITION OF THJODVILJINN FOLLOW. END SUMMARY. UNCLASSIFIED

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2. THJODVILJINN, 1 JULY 1975: ICELANDIC SHIPS USED FOR CABLE LAYING

FOR THE AMERICANS. THE FISHING SHIP "BERGA" WAS USED FOR THIS IN THE SPRING OF 1971. NOTHING IS HEARD FROM THE OCCUPATION FORCE AT KEEL AVIK

AIRPORT ON THE SO CALLED CABLE MATTER AND AS FAR AS CAN BE SEEN THE "PROTECTORS" HAVE SLEPT FITFULLY ON GUARD WHEN ESPIONAGE BUOYS AND CABLES HAVE BEEN DUMPED INTO THE SEA INSIDE ICELAND'S TERRITORIAL LIMITS, UNLESS THEY HAVE SOMETHING TO HIDE AND DON'T WANT TO KNOW ANYTHING FOR THAT REASON, - COULD THAT POSSIBLY BE TRUE? ONE THING IS CERTAIN HOWEVER AND THIS IS. THAT THE OCCUPATION FORCE HAS USED ICELANDIC SHIPS TO LAY A CABLE OFF STOKKSNES. IN THE SPRING OF 1971 THE FISHING SHIP "BERGA". THEN OPERATED FROM HOFN IS HORNAFJORDUR. WAS LEASED TO TAKE A CABLE OUT, FAR THICKER AND BULKIER THAN THE CABLE FOUND THE OTHER DAY. OUT AT SEA THERE WAS A BARGE, WHICH RECEIVED THE CABLE AND PUT IT IN THE SEA, BUT TO THE CABLE WERE ATTACHED FLOATS HERE AND THERE WHILE THE CABLE WAS BEING PAID OUT. PERHAPS THIS WAS DONE IN ORDER TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO CONNECT SOME-THING TO THE CABLE. ON THIS BARGE WORKED STRICTLY AMERICAN SERVICEMEN AND, ACCORDING TO OSKAR GUDMUNDSSON, WHO WAS THE CAPTAIN OF THE "BERGA"

WHEN THIS HAPPENED, THERE WERE AMERICAN SERVICEMEN ON BOARD THE "BERGA"

TO HANDLE THE CABLE. OSKAR SAID, THAT HE HAD NO IDEA FOR WHAT THIS CABLE WAS INSTALLED THERE, THAT THE SHIP HAD MERELY BEEN LEASED FOR THIS TRANSPORT WORK. WE HAD JUST FINISHED THE FISHING SEASON AND WERE WAITING FOR SPACE ON THE SLIPWAY FOR CLEANING UP AFTER THE SEASON, WHEN WE WERE HIRED TO TRANSPORT THE CABLE, SAID OSKAR. IT IS THUS CLEAR THAT THE AMERICANS HAVE BEEN TAMPERING WITH SEA CABLES, WITHOUT THE ICELANDIC AUTHORITIES, IN THIS CASE THE COAST GUARD,

INFORMED ABOUT THIS OR AT LEAST THE EXECUTIVES OF THE COAST GUARD HAVE

NOT RECOGNIZED ANY CABLE LAYING AT THIS COUNTRY, AFTER THE CABLE MATTER

CAME UP THE OTHER DAY

3. (THJODVILJINN 2 JULY 1975): THE STOKKSNES CABLE: AN ESPIONAGE CABLE FOR NATO - AND ANOTHER ONE LIES FROM REYKJANES TO AMERICA - USED TO

SPY ON SUBMARINES PASSING THROUGH THE AREA. THE CABLE WHICH THE

SHIP "BERGA" TRANSPORTED OUT TO SEA OFF STOKKSNES IN 1971 IS MOST UNCLASSIFIED

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LIKELY

THE END OF AN EXPIONAGE CABLE FOR NJTO, A CABLE WHICH LIES FROM STOKK SNES

TO STAVANGER IN NORWAY. ANOTHER SIMILAR CABLE LIES FROM REYKJANES TO AMERICA, EITHER TO CANADA OR THE THE UNITED STATES. TO THESE CABLES ARE ATTACHED LISTENING DEVICES OR BUOYS, WHICH GIVE SIGNALS ON THE MOVEMENTS OF ALL SUBMARINES WHICH PASS THROUGH THE AREA AND WITH THIS NATO FRNCES THY ROUTE OF SOVIET SUBMARINES WITH

SUCH RESULTS, THAT NOT A SINGLE SUBMARINE PASSES THROUGH THE AREA BET WEEN

ICELAND AND NORWAY WITHOUT NATO KNOWING ABOUT THE SUBMARINE. INFORMATION

TO THIS EFFECT HAS BEEN DISCLOSED IN THE WEST GERMAN TELEVISION, WHEN IT WAS BEING DISCUSSED TO HAVE THE ARMED FORCE LEAVE THIS COUNTRY AND ALSO HAVE THESE CABLE BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE WEST GERMAN PRESS IN RECENT YEARS, ACCORDING TO INFORMTION GIVEN US BY A YOUNG STUDENT WHO HAS JUST RETURNED HOME FROM GERMANY, BUT HE TOLD US THIS YESTERDAY. HE SAID, THAT WHEN IT HAD BEEN CONSIDERED TO HAVE THE ARMED FORCE LEAVE, THERE HAD BEEN A PROGRAM ON THE WEST GERMAN TELEVISION ABOUT NATO AND ITS DEFENSES IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC AREA AND DURING THIS PROGRAM A MAP WAS SHOWN, INDICATING WHERE THESE ESPIONAGE CABLES LIE FROM STOKKSNES AND FROM REYKJANES. DURING THE PROGRAM IT WAS STATED, THAT THESE TWO NATO STATIONS, AT STOKKSNES AND AT REYKJANES, WERE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. AT ABOUT THE SAME

TIME A GERMAN MILITARY PUBLICATION STATED THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF ICELAND FOR NATO IS CONTAINED IN THESE CABLES. IT IS THEREFORE OBVIOUS THAT IF A NUCLEAR WAR WERE TO BREAK OUT THESE STATIONS WOULD BE INVALUABLE FROM THE MILITARY POINT OF VIEW AND WOULD THEREFORE BE AMONG THE FIRST TO BE BLOWN UP BY THE ADVERSARY OF NATO. FOR THIS THERE WOULD BE USED REMOTE CONTROLLED NUCLEAR BOMBS AND IT CERTAINLY IS NOT NECESSARY TO TELL ANYONE WHAT CONSEQUENCES

THIS WOULD HAVE FOR US ICELANDERS. HAVING RECEIVED THIS INFORMATION IT

SHOULD NOT SURPRISE ANYONE THAT THE AMERICAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES AT KEFLAVIK AIRPORT PRETEND TO KNOW NOTHING ABOUTTHIS CABLE MATTER. COULD IT POSSIBLY BE THAT THE LISTENING BUOYS WHICH HAVE BEEN DRIFTING ASHORE HERE DURING THE LAST WINTER, WITH SOVIET LETTERING ON THEM, ARE BUOYS WHICH HAVE BROKEN AWAY FROM THESE CABLES. THE AMERICANS AND OTHER NATO COUNTRIES DO UNCLASSIFIED

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WITHOUT DOUBT SEE TO IT THAT SUCH EXPIONAGE EQUIPMENT IS NOT IDENTIFIED WITH THEM IN ANY WAY. WHAT PERHAPS IS MOST SERIOUS IN THIS MATTER IS THE FACT, THAT THE ICELANDIC AUTHORITIES DO NOT APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN INFORMED ABOUT THIS. AT LEAST THEY HAVE HAD NO IDEA ABOUT WHAT CABLES PEOPLE WERE TALKING WHEN THE TRAWLER "BJARTUR" FROM NESKAUPSTADUR CAUGHT ONE SUCH IN THE TRAWL, INSIDE ICELAND'S TERRITORIAL LIMITS. FOR WHAT DO WE HAVE A COAST GUARD. IS THE COAST GUARD NOT THE ICELANDIC POLICE ON THE OCEAN INSIDE ICELAND'S TERRITORIAL LIMITS?

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